

National Council Meeting
Saturday 1st October 2022 at 11:00am

Ramada Encore Hotel, LEICESTER, LE1 1GE

MINUTES

National Board Officers

Jim Conway	National President	JC
Steve James	National Vice President	SJ
Bernard Elwen	National Secretary	BE
Peter McBride	National Membership Officer	PM
Wynn Parry	NCLO + Region 6	WP
Don Mullane	National Communications and IT Officer	DM
Andy Ventress	International Relations Officer	AV
Kelly Clarke	National Fellowship Officer	KC

National Councillors

Colin McKenzie	Region 1	CM
Bill Freeman	Region 2	BF
Peter Milburn	Region 4	PMn
Roger Spensley	Region 5	RS
Peter Walker	Region 9	PW
John Manley	Region 10	JM
Steve Tasker	Region 11	ST
Rory Tompsett	Region 12	RT
John Bell	Region 13	JB
Richard Holland	Region 14	RH
Andy Waring	Region 15	AW
Paul Simmons	Region 16	PS
Stuart Bizley	Region 17	SB
Jason Thomson	Region 18	JT
David Chard	Region 20	DC
Kevin Chard	Region 21	KCh
Stuart George	Region 22	SG
Richard Dyson	Region 23	RD
Martin Manuel	Region 25	MM

National Honorary Officers

Mark House	Honorary Webmaster	MH
Sean McCormick	Honorary Archivist	SM
David Smith	Honorary Solicitor	DS

Apologies

Kevin Lovett	National Treasurer	KL
Peter Good	Immediate Past President	PG
Aidan Coyne	Region 3	AC





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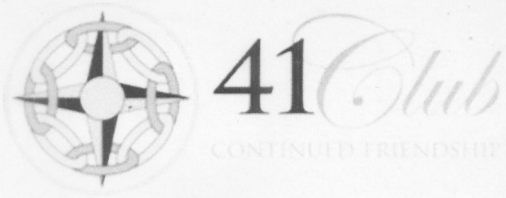
Guests

John Kilshaw	Liverpool Conference Committee 2024 (Items 10 and 17)	JK
Kevin Stewart	NSSW 2023	KS
Heather Parry	Tangent President (Item 10)	HP
Tracey Pickin	Tangent IPP (Item 10)	TP

1. Welcome and Permission for guests to speak JC welcomed National Council members to the meeting. It was proposed by WP seconded by JM and agreed by the meeting that guests would be permitted to speak. It was proposed by RT, seconded by ST and agreed that Tangent Executive members could address the meeting under item 9.
2. Induction of National Councillor JC was pleased to induct Andy Waring as new National Councillor for Region 15, following the resignation of Neal Lowe.
3. Purposes and Objects Ably recited by Stuart George
4. Declaration of Business Interests SJ had accepted an invitation from Fred Olsen Cruised to take part in an educational cruise, at no cost to himself or the Association. KC declared a similar interest. MH charged the Association at cost for all website domains.
5. Apologies for Absence As above
6. Minutes of Meeting on 9th July 2022 Agreed as an accurate record, proposed by BF and seconded by WP.
7. Matters Arising None that were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.
8. National Council Reports – Questions This was the first time that the report had been completed as an online collaborative document in MS Teams, and JM said that it had been simple to complete the template. SG had found it difficult, so BE said that he would copy and paste his content in for him.
9. Membership PM reported three disaffiliations. These were Llantrisant, Haverfordwest and Wrekin.
JK suggested regional meetings as a good way of making clubs more involved with the Association.
JM aid that Loughborough and District planned to merge with another club in the town.

PM put forward a request to affiliate Hamble Valley Stick 1 and outlined the circumstances. He had also received a request from Hamble Valley and Fareham for affiliation. Hamble Valley Stick 1 had objected to this club using “Hamble Valley” in its name. This was overruled by National Council, as there had been precedent for clubs in one locality with similarities in their names.





National Council Meeting
Saturday 1st October 2022 at 11:00am

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PM proposed, and JB seconded, that both Hamble Valley Stick 1 and Hamble Valley & Fareham be affiliated. This was passed unanimously.

The latest membership figures were included in his report. He urged National Councillors to be more proactive in going out to visit their clubs. It was noted that 4 National Councillors had failed to submit reports, 4 had only visited one club besides their own and a further 2 had visited less than 2 per month.

10. Liverpool Conference 2024 JK was invited to deliver a prepared statement on behalf of the Liverpool 2024 Conference Committee – see Appendix 1.

JC then went on to discuss the e-mail which had been circulated by RS to National Council members the previous day. JC stated that this was the first time that 41 Club had organised a National Conference in an equal partnership with Tangent.

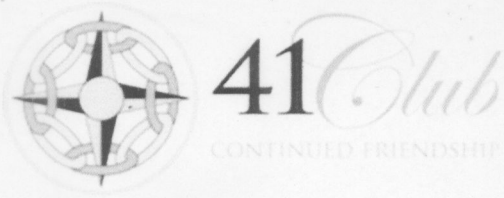
The Conference Manual was discussed – RS was unaware that it existed. SJ replied that this had been put together as a working reference document to assist conference committees as guidance and had been finished in March 2022. It was emphasised that this was a working document which could be updated and adapted as necessary and was certainly not to be regarded as a “Bible”.

JC stated that 41 Club Board and Council wanted Liverpool 2024 to happen, and all of National Council were behind the bid. JK asked why KC had sought an alternative venue. KC replied that this was just a tentative enquiry in the event that there was no agreement between 41 Club and Tangent for Liverpool to happen, but as there was now agreement, this was no longer an issue. JK said that it would have been polite to have informed his committee that this enquiry had been made, rather than him hearing about it second hand.

JC explained that there had been a dilemma, with 41 Club wanting to go ahead with Liverpool and Tangent wanting to pull out. JC explained the reasons why Tangent had wanted to pull out. The situation had moved on, with Tangent now being prepared to support Liverpool 2024 as well.

JC emphasised that there had been no implied criticism of the Liverpool Conference Committee, as suggested in RS's e-mail. JC had been under the impression that his communications to JK had been passed on to the other members of the Liverpool Conference Committee.

The matters of risk and risk assessment were discussed. SG asked if there were other areas where a risk assessment was required. SJ agreed to let JK and RS have the risk assessments which had been completed for the Cardiff 2022 Conference. RD also agreed to let JK have the one completed for the



National Council Meeting
Saturday 1st October 2022 at 11:00am

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caravanning weekend. BF mentioned that helpful template documents could be obtained online.

RS asked what the fallback position was, in the event that 41 Club Board and Tangent Executive could not reach agreement. SJ said that there was a provision in our 41 Club rules in the event that the two Associations could not agree on a hosting bid, in that the 41 Club Fellowship Officer had the final say. After some debate, it transpired that there was nothing in the rules of either Association to resolve any subsequent disagreement between 41 Club and Tangent. This needed to be resolved as soon as possible. SG thought this question should be put to the Tangent President when she joined the meeting,

JT asked if Round Table and Ladies Circle had a Memorandum of Understanding, which could be used as a model. JC replied that there was an MOU between the four clubs in the RT family which amounted to one side of A4.

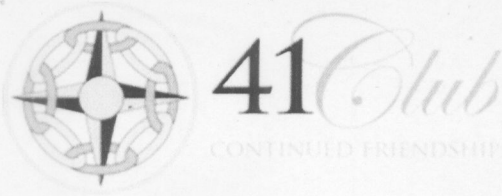
At this point, HP and TP were welcomed to the meeting. HP confirmed that Tangent Executive were fully behind the Liverpool 2024 Conference. HP also confirmed that a second Tangent representative would accompany their Vice-President on the Liverpool Conference Committee. HP also stated that she regarded the Conference Manual as a working document, and risk assessments as a managing tool. SG asked HP what her views were on having a memorandum of understanding, and she agreed that this was a key area that needed agreement and signature. HP added that this was being looked at by the two Secretaries and she hoped to have agreement in the next couple of months. RS reiterated that a deadlock clause needed to be incorporated.

HP had contacted Neal Lowe, the 41Club and Tangent insurance broker. He had quoted a figure for insurance in the event that the event was cancelled. A ballpark figure had been quoted, and this would be discussed and progressed when the detailed quote was received.

RS asked HP about risk assessments, and HP replied that she had been concerned about the financial risk to both associations, in the event that a venue was out of action, a caterer went bust or similar eventuality.

RS asked about the Jersey Conference, and KC replied that no contracts had been signed so far.

RS thought that much of the dissatisfaction had been down to poor communication, coupled with a lack of any structure in place to accommodate joint working arrangements between Tangent, 41 Club and the Liverpool Conference Committee. He said that the Conference Committee were very



National Council Meeting
Saturday 1st October 2022 at 11:00am

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jaded, as they had been caught in the middle of unresolved disagreements between the 41 Club Board and Tangent Executive. JC agreed that the situation was not satisfactory but was committed to finding solutions which meant that all concerned could work together and resolve their differences amicably.

11. Other Fellowship Matters

KC invited CM to deliver a video presentation, to promote NSSW 2023. The key message was "Stranraer's Not Far".

KC confirmed that 300 places had been booked out of the 375 required for breakeven

KC and JC gave thanks to RD for the Camping and Caravanning Weekend. RD mentioned that he had managed to persuade a new member to join 41Club. JC then presented RD with a special tie.

12. Comms and IT DM advised that the project team to consider 41er World had recently co-opted JT and KCh. They were planning to use a Dutch card payment company (Mollie). AC was looking at ticketing sites.

Webmaster. An advert had been placed in the latest newsletter for a new Honorary Webmaster.

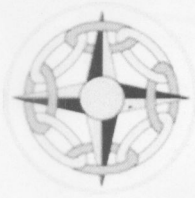
13. National Councillors Liaison WP update as per National Council report. There had been some interest in the vacant Region 19 National Councillor post, but it was noted that the member was not a member of a club in Region 19. WP would advise that member accordingly that this would not be progressed at the present time.

14. International Relationships Officer AV reported on a fruitful HYM at Odense. He, along with SJ, CM and JT, had attended the afternoon workshops and found them very useful. He also reported that the HYM had agreed to present the rule changes to be voted on at the AGM in 2023. One of the proposed rule changes was that the International AGM did not necessarily have to be hosted by the home country of the International President.

Ukraine pins. All National Councillors were encouraged to collect bags of 50 pins, to be sold for £5 each. The German RT Convoy won the RTI Community Service Award.

YAP Convenor. It was noted that Bruce Bennett had resigned from this post. It had been agreed at the previous NC meeting in Derby that the immediate Past president would convene YAP tours in the future. AV would attend the YAP Convenors meeting in November, with AV, JC and SJ agreeing a process for the next YAP tour in 2023.



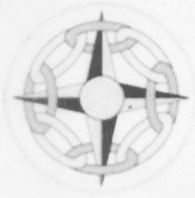


JM asked if the Board had a response to Bruce Bennett's e-mail of a few days ago. JC replied that he had received Bruce's original e-mail and had discussed the suggestions with the Board. JT explained Bruce's position.

AV said it had previously been agreed by National Council that the Community Service budget line could be used by YAP.

SG asked if we could reconsider our options for YAP. JT agreed that the Immediate Past president was not the best person to be organising a YAP tour. WP thought the consensus of the meeting was that the YAP Convenor position be reconsidered. AV added that he had originally asked for the YAP Convenor post to be an Honorary Council post at the time but this had been rejected. This would also be revisited.

15. Treasurer KL has not present, so a finance report was read out on his behalf. This would be included in the updated National Council report. JM, as a member of the Finance Committee, presented an "alternative" finance report which was as amusing as it was inaccurate.
16. Vice President SJ reported that the Forward Planning Committee had been in summer recess but would be presenting a strategy to the meeting in February.
17. Secretary BE reported that the Admin Committee had met and proposed some changes to Rules and Standing Orders. Most of the changes involved renumbering and reordering existing rules, but there were some proposed changes to substance:
 - More work needed to be done around National Councillor's terms of office as there were inconsistencies in the current rules.
 - The current rule around National Councillors' Liaison Officer needed to be tweaked.
 - It had been suggested that provision be made for additional National Council meetings should circumstances dictate. It was agreed that a rule change be put forward, allowing the Board to convene a meeting if necessary.
 - It was agreed that length of time allowed for speakers at the AGM needed to be included in Standing Orders. At present, speakers were all allowed up to 5 minutes, although this was different from custom and practice.
 - The meeting agreed that, in the event of a Board member resigning partway through a term of office, that any replacement serve until the end of that year rather than the end of the original term. This would be a resolution to the AGM.
 - It was agreed that any newly affiliated club would be asked for its views on which Region to be placed in. This would also be a rule change.
 - There would be a rule change to amend the AGM time window from 31st May to 30th April, to bring us into line with Tangent.



41 Club
CONTINUED FRIENDSHIP

National Council Meeting

Saturday 1st October 2022 at 11:00am

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- Change the wording of the period in which to determine future National Conferences.
- There were two minor amendments to Standing Orders which would also require rule changes but were not thought to be contentious.

BE reported that an advert had been placed in the latest newsletter for a replacement for Honorary Solicitor.

BE advised that the agreement with RTBI for the provision of administration services by Marchesi House was due to expire on 31st December 2022. BE had reviewed the task in the key performance indicators, and there was general agreement that many of them did not need to be carried out by Marchesi House, if at all. The agreement was based on how 41 Club used to operate before the introduction of CAS and electronic communication. It was agreed that BE would put the review to RTBI Board and ask them for their valuation of the key tasks that we required.

18. National President JC update as per National Council report. He also presented all present with a set of special cufflinks.

19. Any Other Business

RS asked if the agendas and minutes of Board meetings could be made available to National Council members. RD thought that communication between Board and Council should be with WP. JC agreed to seek the views of Board members and report back.

SB thought that the meeting showed there was a lack of communication from the Board to National Councillors. JC accepted this and would consider how this could be improved.

20. Master at Arms (or Arms) Steve "I've Got a Little List" Tasker was in his element.

21. Next National Council Meeting Saturday 11th February 2023 at 11:00am at the Cedar Court Hotel Mayo Avenue, Bradford, BD5 8HW.

Signed:

See below

Dated:

Jim Conway – National President 2022-23





National Council Meeting
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Appendix 1 – Statement from John Kilshaw – Co-Chairman of Liverpool 2024 Conference Committee

Good morning, members of the Council and fellow observers

John Kilshaw

- Conference Committee Liverpool 2024 joint Chairman
- Past National Councillor Region 8 41 Club
- Woolton, Ribble and Lune active, OBE and Andy Pandy 41 Club
- And for Rory – Past National President RTBI

Firstly, can I say !! how disappointed I am to find myself stood before you this morning but was told I would have a right of reply by the President on behalf of the Conference Committee

For the record I must state that my loyalty lies to the membership of not only 41 Club but also Tangent and members of Liverpool 2024 Conference Committee to work not FOR, but WITH the Board and Council of 41 Club and the Exec of Tangent to arrange and put on Conference 2024 in Liverpool for the membership.

This Committee are all volunteers with no personal agenda or personal gain in putting Liverpool 2024 on and have a vast array of knowledge and experience in not only putting Conferences and National events on but also running RTBI and NALC

There have been rumours and Chinese whispers and again for the record this committee is united on every front and as one member of our committee has said to National, united we stand.

I do not wish or have the inclination to go into the issues all the emails, discussions between the Board/ Exec and Committee as Roger's email to this council covers everything only to say it has not been an easy ride.

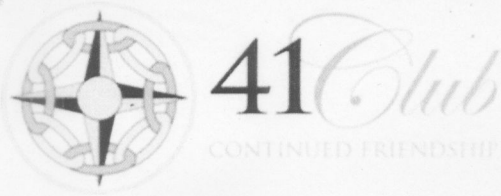
The Committee were tasked to deliver Conference 2024 by the previous Council of 41 Club and the Exec of Tangent, both of whom now have 50% each of the ownership of Conference including financial responsibility with no overriding process for finalising issues if they disagree, this being agreed at Tangent AGM 2019 and 41 Club AGM 2020

We still have a clear mandate from 41 Club council, despite emails from the Board and a third party being approached to put on conference if there was an issue with Liverpool that was not told to the committee, the council who's mandate we are following or to the best of my knowledge the Exec of Tangent.

The committee has worked tirelessly since 2018 when we first approached the then Fellowship officer with our idea to arrange conference

I can proudly say that to date





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- Venue
- Caterers
- Hotel HQ
- AGM venues for both Tangent and 41 Club
- Bands

are all arranged and as a committee we are proud and more important to say all on budget

We are also in talks with the AV company following the AGM requirements being sent by the Secretaries of both Associations for the AGMs.

The contracts for the venue and caterers have both been sent to the Board and Exec in June and been seen by the 41 Club Honorary solicitor who has commented on both which has been taken on board in and these require signatures

The frustration for the committee is that despite the Board and Exec knowing that joint ownership conferences were coming up, since 2019/2020, no processes or agreements as of today or that this Committee are aware of have been agreed and are in place for correct names for signatures on contracts, contact address, insurance, the use of risk assessments, finance, and the legalities of holding a joint 50% ownership of the Conference

I will add though that these issues were raised in the Committee email to National Exec and Board and were to be discussed at yesterday's joint Board and Exec meeting, but to date, I have not seen a reply.

I must also stress that I cannot comment on any reply as moving forward it has been agreed by all parties that communication from National will be a joint agreed communication from the two conference representatives and the Committee will send an agreed communication.

I will also state that until contracts are signed this committee can do no more, we have already had communication asking what is happening with contracts from the chosen suppliers as stated they were sent end of June ready for the July joint Board/ Exec meeting, I have had to reply and stated there is another joint meeting yesterday to discuss between national Board and Exec, which they understood but stressed contracts need to be in place and deposits paid to secure the bookings, so hopefully after yesterday's meeting everything is ready for us to move forward and deliver what this committee know will be a fantastic conference

Thank you for your time and I will take any questions you may have

